

Rule 6A-14.092 Textbook and Course Material Affordability and Transparency

Semester Information

1. EVR 1001 Introduction to Environmental Science
2. 3 credit / hours
3. CRN 15096
4. Pre-requisite: None
5. Co-requisite: None
6. Spring 2026

Contact Information

1. Instructor: Matthew Crane
2. Telephone 1: 850-769-1551 ext. 3332
3. Instructor email: mcrane4@gulfcoast.edu
4. Division Chair: Ms. Fledia Ellis, 850-872-3848
5. Admin Asst: Kathy Bleday 850-872-3851

Approved Course Materials and Resources

1. Textbook Information: Essential Environment: The Science Behind the Stories, 6th Edition/2019, by Jay Withgott and Matthew Laposata, Publisher: Pearson
 - a. Soft/Bound Edition - ISBN 10: 0-13-471488-1; ISBN 13: 978-0-13-471488-2
2. CANVAS learning management system account and Gulf Coast email address.

Curriculum

1. Course Description: Environmental Science is an introduction to the study of major environmental problems and issues confronting modern society. Topics include ecosystem structure and function, population patterns and dynamics; food, water, soil, and energy resources; pollution of the air, water, and land; and resources management.
2. Instructional Delivery: Instruction will be delivered as Units and Core Issues and will consist of a mixture of lectures/videos for note-taking and reading assignments from the textbook that accompany the lectures. Assessment will include exams, quizzes, and homework.
3. Goals of Course: Students will be able to explain how living things interact with each other and their environment and they will describe how humans have altered the Earth.
4. Approved Student Learning Outcomes:
 1. Apply critical thinking to analysis and interpretation of environmental information and model outputs.
 2. Apply the scientific method to explain natural experiences and phenomena.
 3. Explain the basic chemical, biological, and physical principles of environmental science.
 4. Use empirical evidence to describe the historical and modern context of environmental problems and their solutions.

Student Expectations of the Instructor

1. Availability outside of class – Instructor available for consultation virtually, by appointment only.
2. Response time: Emails and voicemails will be answered at least once per weekday. Expect a reply within 24 hours of receipt with exception of over the weekend, which will be 72 hours.
3. LMS: Canvas will house all materials for the course, other than textbook.

Expectations of the Student

1. **Academic Integrity Policy:** Honest participation in academic endeavors fosters an environment in which optimal learning can take place and is consistent with the college's mission. Academic misconduct, including cheating or plagiarism, is destructive to the spirit of an educational environment and therefore will not be tolerated. "Cheating" includes but is not limited to use of any unauthorized assistance in completing course work. "Plagiarism" includes, but it not limited to, the use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment. Sanctions for incidences of academic misconduct, depending on the severity of the incidence and/or its repetition, may range from receiving an F grade (or zero) for the test, assignment, or activity, to failure of the course, to suspension or dismissal from the program or the college.
2. **Student Accessibility Statement:** Gulf Coast State College supports an inclusive learning environment for all students. If there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that hinder your full participation, reasonable accommodations can be arranged. Prior to receiving accommodations, you must register with Student Accessibility Resources. Appropriate academic accommodations will be determined based on the documented needs of the student. For information regarding the registration process, email sar@gulfcoast.edu or call 850-747-3243.
3. **Lecture Recording Policy:** In accordance with federal and state privacy laws, students may record class lectures for their own personal educational use, in connection with a complaint to the college, or as evidence in internal or external legal proceedings. Students may not publish or upload the recordings or any components thereof without the knowledge and written permission of the faculty member. Failure to obtain permission to publish could lead to the students' having to pay damages, attorney fees, and court costs. For more information about what can be recorded, please see the guidelines in the current Student Handbook on the Gulf Coast State College website.
4. **Attendance:** Regular class attendance and participation are significant factors that help to promote success in college. Students are expected to attend all class meetings of all courses for which they are registered. Attendance will be taken for each class as a perfunctory task. A student must show academic activity for this course within first two weeks of the semester or they will be reported as a "No Show" and withdrawn from the course. Emails do not count as academic activity, nor does Canvas Activity. Participation by attendance or assignment submission will be required.
5. **Withdrawal:** Students wishing to withdraw from a course must complete a withdrawal form and submit the form to the Office of Enrollment Services before the scheduled withdrawal date as published on the college calendar. Student withdrawals initiated prior to the scheduled withdrawal deadline (see Academic Calendar) will be recorded as a grade of "W". Two withdrawals are permitted per credit course. After that, a grade will be assigned. Please be concerned about withdrawals. When admitting students into certain programs, universities may calculate withdrawals as grades. It is your responsibility to verify the effects of enrollment and/or withdrawal upon your financial assistance (financial aid, scholarships, grants, etc.).
6. **Incomplete Grade Policy:** To receive a grade of "I" (for "Incomplete") in a class, the student must submit a written request to the instructor prior to the last day of the course. The "Incomplete" option is only intended to help students who have an emergency arise in the last weeks of the class that prevents them from finishing all work. The "Incomplete" provides 30 days from the ending date of the course to make up any missing work. If work is not submitted during this time period, the grade will automatically change to an "F".
7. **Laptop / Personal Technology Policy:** All cell phones must be turned off (not on vibrate) and put away (in a pocket, a purse, or a back pack) by the time class starts and may not be visible until the instructor has left the room at the end of class except when used for class activity. Sending or receiving cell phone calls, pages or text messages is not allowed except for law enforcement officers, firefighters or other

first responders. Other than these, any student who leaves the classroom to use a cell phone will not be permitted back in class and an absence may be assessed. Unauthorized use of a cell phone in class can be construed as a Disruptive Act as defined in the Student Code of Conduct in the GCSC Student Handbook and as a violation of the Academic Integrity Policy and may result in dismissal from the class. The student cannot be readmitted to the class without seeing the Chair of the Natural Sciences Division and obtaining clearance to attend class.

Method of Student Performance

1. Method of Assessment: Unit exams, a final exam, quizzes, and homework/projects.
2. GCSC Grading Scale:
 - a. A 90 – 100%
 - b. B 80 – 89%
 - c. C 70 – 79%
 - d. D 60 – 69%
 - e. F < 60%